

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 27, 2004

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1346**

**Introduced by Senator Ducheny**

February 18, 2004

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An act to add ~~Section 4114.3~~ *Sections 4114.3 and 4122* to the Public Resources Code, relating to natural resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1346, as amended, Ducheny. Natural resources: fire prevention and suppression.

Under existing law, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection is responsible for protecting the state's forest, range, and brushland resources from fire. Existing law requires the department to organize fire crews and patrols.

This bill would require the department to staff at least four persons on all department fire engines during fire season, as defined, except in southern California, as defined, where the bill would require the department to staff at least 4 persons on all department fire engines year-round.

*This bill would also require the department to prepare a biennial California fire prevention plan that documents the activities of the department, including its individual units, and contains the fire prevention plans and goals of the department and other specified information regarding fire safe inspections, fuel reduction and treatment efforts, prescribed burning, and educational, fire planning, and outreach activities.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 4114.3 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

4114.3. (a) The department shall staff at least four persons on all department fire engines during fire season, except in southern California, where the department shall staff at least four persons on all department fire engines year-round.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) “Fire season” means the period, declared by the director, during which weather and fuel conditions present a constant fire hazard to the people of the state.

(2) “Southern California” means the area of the state that is south of Santa Barbara and the Tehachapi mountain range.

SEC. 2. Section 4122 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

4122. The department shall prepare a biennial California fire prevention plan that documents the activities of the department, including its individual units, and contains the fire prevention plans and goals of the department and specific information including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(a) Data pertaining to fire safe inspections around homes and other structures in state responsibility and other areas, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Number of inspections

(2) Number of citations issued.

(3) Number of prosecutions initiated by a district attorney.

(4) Five-year trends for clearance inspections on a statewide and unit basis.

(b) Data on fuel reduction and treatment efforts, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Acreage covered.

(2) Whether each effort involved mechanical, manual, or another specified means of treatment.

(3) Five-year trends for fuel reduction and treatment efforts on a statewide and unit basis.

(c) Data on prescribed burning, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Acres burned.

1     (2) *Number of projects planned and completed, including those*  
2     *undertaken with federal or local agencies, fire safe councils, or*  
3     *other organizations.*

4     (d) *Events at which the department participated in educating*  
5     *the public about its fire prevention activities and five-year trends*  
6     *for these activities.*

7     (e) *Fire planning activities, including participation in*  
8     *community fire prevention plans and activities carried out to*  
9     *implement the California fire plan.*

10    (f) *Outreach to local governments on the use of fire resistant*  
11    *building materials.*

